<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend Claims 1-10 as indicated below. The following is a complete

listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings of claims in the present

application.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A data processing method performed by a server

for providing data to a terminal via a network, the method comprising:

a reception step of receiving a request for data loading from the terminal;

a completion discrimination step of discriminating, in response to the request for

data loading, whether a generation of requested data has completed or is in progress;

a first transmission step of transmitting to the terminal the requested data if the

generation thereof has completed;

a prediction step of predicting an end time of the generation of the requested data

if the generation thereof is in progress; and

a second transmission step of transmitting the predicted end time <u>and information</u>

<u>for requesting data loading again at the predicted end time</u> to the terminal ~~during the generation~~

~~of the requested data~~ if the generation of the requested data is in progress.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A data processing method according to claim 1,

wherein said prediction step predicts the end time based on ~~the size of the~~ <u>an amount of</u> data to

be generated.

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Claim 3 (currently amended): A data processing method according to claim 1, wherein ~~said data are result of~~ the requested data is generated by execution of a predetermined process, and said prediction step predicts the end time based on [[the]] a time required for executing [[said]] the predetermined process.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A data processing method performed by a terminal for receiving data from a server via a network, the method comprising:

an issuing step of issuing a request for data loading to the server;

a reception step of receiving from the server in response to the request either [[the]] requested data[[,]] or a predicted end time for generation of the requested data together with information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time;

a display step of displaying the requested data or the predicted end time received from the server;

a data discriminating step of discriminating whether [[the]] received data ~~is the requested data or is~~ includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time; and

a re-issuing step of, in a case where the received data [[is]] includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time ~~for generation of the requested data~~, re-issuing the request for data loading to the server when the predicted end time is reached.

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Claim 5 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus for providing data to a terminal from a server via a network, the apparatus comprising:

reception means for receiving a request for data loading from the terminal;

completion discrimination means for discriminating, in response to the request for data loading, whether a generation of requested data has completed or is in progress;

first transmission means for transmitting to the terminal the requested data if the generation thereof has completed;

a prediction means for predicting an end time of the generation of the requested data if the generation thereof is in progress; and

second transmission means for transmitting the predicted end time and information for requesting data loading again at the predicted end time to the terminal during the generation of the requested data if the generation of the requested data is in progress.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said prediction means predicts the end time based on the size of the an amount of data to be generated.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said data are result of the requested data is generated by execution of a predetermined process, and said prediction means predicts the end time based on [[the]] a time required for executing [[said]] the predetermined process.

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Claim 8 (currently amended): A data processing apparatus for receiving data at a terminal from a server via a network, the apparatus comprising:

issuing means for issuing a request for data loading to the server;

a reception means for receiving from the server in response to the request either ~~the~~ requested data[[,]] or a predicted end time for generation of the requested data <u>together with information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time</u>;

display means for displaying the requested data or the predicted end time received from the server;

data discriminating means for discriminating whether the received data ~~is the requested data or is~~ <u>includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at</u> the predicted end time; and

control means ~~adapted to~~ <u>for</u>, in a case where the received data [[is]] <u>includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at</u> the predicted end time ~~for generation of the requested data, control,~~ <u>controlling</u> said issuing means as to re-issue the request for data loading to the server when the predicted end time is reached.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a data processing program for controlling a server ~~computer to perform data processing for providing~~ <u>to provide</u> data from the server to a terminal via a network, [[said]] <u>the</u> program comprising <u>codes for causing the server to perform</u>:

a reception step of receiving a request for data loading from a terminal;

a completion discrimination step of discriminating, in response to the request for

data loading, whether a generation of requested data has completed or is in progress;

a first transmission step of transmitting to the terminal the requested data if the

generation thereof has completed;

a prediction step of predicting an end time of the generation of the requested data

if the generation thereof is in progress; and

a second transmission step of transmitting the predicted end time <u>and information</u>

<u>for requesting data loading again at the predicted end time</u> to the terminal ~~during the generation~~

~~of the requested data~~ if the generation of the requested data is in progress.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium storing a

data processing program for controlling a terminal computer to ~~perform data processing for~~

~~receiving~~ <u>receive</u> data from a server via a network, [[said]] <u>the</u> program comprising codes for

causing the <u>terminal</u> computer to perform ~~the steps of~~:

an issuing step of issuing a request for data loading to the server;

a reception step of receiving from the server in response to the request either

[[the]] requested data[[,]] or a predicted end time for generation of the requested data <u>together</u>

<u>with information for re-issuing the request for data loading at the predicted end time</u>;

a display step of displaying the requested data or the predicted end time received

from the server;

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a data discriminating step of discriminating whether the received data

~~is the requested data or is~~ <u>includes the information for re-issuing the request for data loading at</u>

the predicted end time; and

a re-issuing step of, in a case where the received data [[is]] <u>includes the</u>

<u>information for re-issuing the request for data loading at</u> the predicted end time ~~for generation of~~

~~the requested data~~, re-issuing the request for the data loading to the server when the predicted end

time is reached.